



Attorney Docket No.: P48D1-US

#11/Response
Patent Hawkins
4/12/02

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail on February 25, 2002 in an envelope addressed to: Box RCE, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Patti Crowder
Patti Crowder

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of: Pedersen et al.

Application No.: 09/539,287

Filing Date: March 30, 2000

For: LITHOGRAPHICALLY DEFINED
MICROELECTRONIC CONTACT
STRUCTURES

Examiner: Q. Vu

Group Art Unit: 2841

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RESPONSE

Box RCE
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action dated October 24, 2001, the period for response to which has been extended to February 25, 2002 (the first business day following February 24, 2002), and in conjunction with the concurrent filing of a Request for Continued Examination, by the accompanying Petition For Extension Of Time, please consider the following remarks.

REMARKS

No claims have been amended or newly added. Previously pending claims 41, 43-46, 49, 54, 55, 57-60, and 65-70 continue to be pending in this application. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

All of the pending claims have been rejected as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,184,053, serial no. 08/852,152. However, the instant application claims priority as a continuation-in-part of the foregoing US patent. See page 1, paragraph 2 of the instant application; see also the filing receipt of the instant application. Thus, the foregoing patent—

US Patent No. 6, 184,053—is not prior art to the claims pending in the instant application. Therefore, the rejection of the pending claims in view of the foregoing US patent is not proper and should be withdrawn.

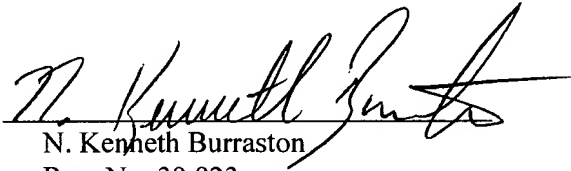
In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a discussion with Applicants' attorney would be helpful, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (925) 456-3915.

Although Applicants believe that all necessary extensions of time have been requested and all necessary fees have been paid, any extension of time not already requested and necessary for acceptance of this paper is hereby requested, and Applicant authorizes the Commissioner to charge the fee for any such extension of time as well as any other fee required in connection with the filing of this paper to Deposit Account No. 50-0285 (order no. P48D1-US).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 25, 2002

By:


N. Kenneth Burraston
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